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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Technical Meeting of Experts to the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
13-15 November 1989

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting (Agenda Item 1)

The meeting will be opened by a representative of the Host Government. The United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of ECA and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity will also make statements.

2. Election of officers (Agenda Item 2)

For the conduct of its deliberations, the meeting will elect a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the Agenda and Programme of work (Agenda Item 3)

A draft agenda (Document E/ECA/TRADE/TET/1/Rev.1) and Programme of Work (Document E/ECA/TRADE/TET/1/Rev.1) will be considered by the meeting for final adoption.

4. Review of the Lagos Plan of Action in the field of Trade (Agenda Item 4)

Under this item of the Agenda the meeting will review issues and problems faced by African countries in the development and expansion of domestic and intra-African trade in the context of the Lagos Plan of Action. The meeting will review the findings of two studies on domestic and transborder trade (Document E/ECA/TRADE/89/14) and intra-African trade (Document E/ECA/TRADE/89/15) with a view to formulating recommendations for the accelerated implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action towards the recovery and transformation of the African economies in the light of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes (AAF-SAP).

The meeting will also review a number of other reports on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action relating to Africa's trade with other developing regions of the world and make recommendations for the development and expansion of Africa's South-South Trade relations (Document E/ECA/TRADE/89/9), on trade relations between Africa and China (Documents E/ECA/TRADE/89/7 and E/ECA/TRADE/89/23), and Africa's participation in the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP) (Document E/ECA/TRADE/89/21).

5. Report on the Fifth All-Africa Trade Fair and Preparations for the Sixth All-Africa Trade Fair (Agenda Item 5)

In Resolution No. 1 adopted by the Ninth Conference of African Ministers of Trade held in Addis Ababa in March 1987, the Conference inter alia took note of the preparatory arrangements for the Fifth All Africa Trade Fair, approved the composition of the Organising Committee including its terms of reference, and requested that a thorough assessment of the impact of the previous All-Africa Trade Fairs and a market survey of the Fifth Fair be undertaken. The Conference will consider two documents under this item, the first document is entitled Report of the Fifth All-Africa Trade Fair [Document CM/1522 (XLIX)], and the second, Report of the team of Consultants on the Evaluation of the All-Africa Trade Fair (Document ITC/DTS/88/141). In addition, the Secretariat will circulate a brief note on preparations for the Sixth All-Africa Trade Fair.

6. Recent trends and developments in international trade relations: Alternative Policies for Africa's trade relations within the ACP/EEC framework and the Uruguay Round of negotiations (Agenda Item 6)

The meeting will take note of the outcome of the last ECA Conference of Ministers of Planning and Finance which adopted the African Alternative Framework for Structural Adjustment Programmes (E/ECA/CM.15/6/Rev.3). Trade related measures in the context of the Framework as well as some modalities for their implementation will be examined with particular reference to State Trading Organizations (Document E/ECA/TRADE/89/18), Africa's trade relations with the industrialized countries in terms of the current multilateral negotiations within the Uruguay Round and the EEC/ACP relations (Document E/ECA/TRADE/89/16). The reports will assess developments in both forums and their implications for Africa's future development as well as suggestions for future actions by African countries both individually and collectively.

In reviewing issues related to the declining trends of Africa's commodity markets and in making recommendations for their improvement, the meeting will take stock of the progress made in implementing the Integrated Programme for Commodities.

7. Any other business (Agenda Item 7)

8. Date and venue of the next Conference of African Ministers of Trade (Agenda Item 8)

The meeting will decide the venue and date of the XIth Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade.

9. Adoption of the Report (Agenda Item 9)

The meeting will adopt its report and resolutions if any.